STATE IN IHE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENHRGY. ELECTRONICS. AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes. Sir. A task force on "Electronics for Heal' care" has been set up by Department of Electronics (DoE) in August 1988 with 15 members.

(b) The Task Force has the following terms of reference:—)

(i) The requirement of electronics ia alth care for the Eighth and Ninth Pla as also to seek a target for the year 2000.

(2) To study the various manufactur ing facilities available in the country and to identify tne requirement of speci- ic *ivmpomnts* and equipment that woukl be rtquiied to meet the demand of 'Ne Electronic Health Care Equipment.

(J) To sludy the existing Import Po-iicy *mi* duty structure on imported equpnient vis-a-vis indegenoiis manuafcture, especially the anomaly of zero impC't dutj on finished imported equipment vis-a-.as 40—250 per cent import duty on components and sub-assemblies fc +tie same and to suggest suitable re- edies. ' (4) To look at various excise and wdes tax a^plicabl? to manufacutred produc *ana* to suggest means of bring- g them in line with similar duties on ipo\ted equipment. (5) To interface with the Ministry of Health to suggest ways and means for setti.i? up district health care centres equipped with mostmodern electronic equioment in health care so as to disperse the heriefit of modern Health Care to tho rural poor. fc) Task Force is expected to submit its reprrt % Mw end of November, 1988. Concrete programm;, will be evolved thereafter.

Fitmncial assistance 'for flood control work

447 SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent problem of floods contd have been effectively controlled;

(b) whelher the Union Governmeat have considered and have taken final deci sion to provide Cantral help to control floods and the devastation that has been caused due to these floods; and

(c) if so, what are the main proposals being considered by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Flood management measures are taken in anticipation of a certain level of floods. In case of floods of unprecedented nature such as one that occurred in some areas during the last monsoon, the cost-effectiveness of the measures that can be taken include flood warnings and better regulation of economic activities in the flood-prone zones, in addition to such structural measures as may be possible at specific loca tions. Even though the piimary responsibility for flood management and maintenance of flood control structures rests with the State Government, the Central Gov- ernment has been extending all technical assistance, flood warnings and also give loan assistance to the State of Assam and on a few projects to other States. Central Government has also established the Brahmaptra Board and the Ganga Flood Control Commission for integrated planning of flood management works and measures.

Family Welfare Programmes

448. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article in the October 31, 1988 issue of "Tnd'a Today" in which the great hoax of family welfare programmes bas been exposed;

(b) whether Government ar$_e$ aware that though this hoax not only Government are beine fed with fals~ figures of achievement but laree amounts of money are also being swindled; and

fc) if so, what stem Government propose to take to streamline the system and prevent mis-use of funds for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRl MOTI LAL VORA): (a) to (c) The article -Family Planning The Great Hoax' published in the October 31, 1988 isse of 'India Today' has been examined. No confirmed reports of feeding of large scale false figures and swindling of large amounts of money under tho Family Welfare Programme have been received so far. However, as part of regular evaluation mechanism, the performance of the States/UTs under different methods of contraception are verified th ough a sample check by the Central Evaluation teams, in addition to checking done by the States/UTs through their own mechanism. The feed back from the evaluation teams is regularly shared with the State Governments for remedial action.

Pending cases and vacancies of Judges in the High Courts

449. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases which are pending in Lower Courts and High Courts separately in the conntry according to the latest figures available with Government;

(b) the number of vacancies in the various High Courts at present;

(c) the prieod for which these posts have been vacant: and

(d) what steps are being taken to reduce the number of pending cases on the one hand and fill up judicial vacancies on the other?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ); (a) As per information furnished by the Registries of the High Courts, the number of cases pending in Lower Courts and High Courts is as follows:

Lower Courts	*High Courts*
As on 1-1-1985 *As on* 1-1-1988	
12005166	1587823

(b) and (c) The position as on 1-11-*19R8* has been '"ndicafed *in* Statement-I attached herewith *(See* below).

(d) The steps taken from time to time to re-iu:e pendency in Courts have been indicated in Statement-II attached herewith *(See* below).

Und;r the Constitution, administration of Justice *in* Lower Coir-ts *cornes* under the puryiew of State Government/High Courts. As regards filling up of vacancies in High Courts, selection of involves deliberation in consultation with the concerned constitutional authorities and is a continuous process.

Statement-I

S. No.	Name of the High Court	Vacancies of Judges			Date from which these are lying vacant
		Pmt.	Addl.	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Allahabad	9	5	14	15-10-84 (A) 15-10-84 (A) 15-10-84 (A) 15-10-84 (A) 7-2-85 (A) 19-11-87 (P) 6-1-88 (P) 30-1-88 (P) 11-4-88 (P) 12-5-88 (P) 1-7-88 (P) 15-7-88 (P) 24-8-88 (P) 6-9-88 (P)